



Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management

OCT 19 2004

WM-42

Gary Janosko, Chief
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T8-A33
Washington D.C. 20555-0001

Subject: Report of Storm Damage at the Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, UMTRCA Title I Site

Dear Mr. Janosko:

On September 22, 2004, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) conducted the annual inspection of the Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, UMTRCA Title I site. Inspectors found that portions of the Chartiers Creek stream bank adjacent to and downstream of the site were damaged by high water events, during the previous week, resulting from Hurricanes Frances and Ivan. Waste containment structures were not damaged.

Damage occurred adjacent to the disposal site along a low-lying portion of the site. High water eroded soil from around fence posts and a portion of the stream bank was washed away as a result of a large tree washing out. The damage did not approach the buried riprap wall that protects the cell.

Damage also occurred along the portion of Chartiers Creek bordering Area C. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania owns this parcel, and sale of the property to a private owner is imminent. DOE repaired the stream bank in 2001 after the original reconstruction suffered damage. Repairs were made at that time to preserve the property value and maintain the integrity of this portion of the stream bank to prevent dispersal of two thorium-230 anomalies left in place at depth in the interior of the parcel. These anomalies are not at risk of becoming exposed by the recent damage.

DOE is evaluating restoration options to address the erosion damage, and will consult with the Commission and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as plans develop. Please call me at (304) 285-4991 if you wish to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Tucker
Ron Staubly
Site Manager

NM5508

cc:

J. Caverly, NRC

R. Maiers, PA

C. Rittiger, PA

Honorable A. Colaizzo, Mayor, Canonsburg

J. Popp, President, Canonsburg City Council

D. Bergman-Tabbert, DOE/LM-50

M. Tucker, DOE/LM-50

L. McGee, DOE/LM-50

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M. Widdop, Stoller

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